

REMARKS

Election of Species Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner states that the invention includes different patentably distinct species, namely, a purification system comprising getter alloys based on zirconium or titanium (claim 7), a purification system comprising a purifier based on nickel (claim 8) and a purification system comprising a catalytic bed of palladium oxide (claim 9). The Examiner argues that these catalysts are different compounds and require a separate search. Accordingly, the Examiner requests election of a single disclosed species for initial examination on the merits. The Examiner acknowledges that claim 6 is generic.

Provisional Election

While not necessarily agreeing with the Examiner's requirement or argument, Applicants provisionally elect claim 8, directed to a purification system comprising a purifier based on nickel, for initial examination. In view of this election, prompt consideration and examination of this application are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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